

REMARKS

35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) Rejections

Paragraphs 1-2 of the above referenced Office Action rejects Claims 1-4, 8, 10, 11, 14-17, 19, and 20 as being anticipated by Francis et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,181,842 (hereafter Francis) under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e). Applicants respectfully traverse. Applicants have herein amended independent Claims 1, 10, and 16 to more particularly point out aspects of the present invention.

With respect to independent Claim 1, Claim 1 as amended discloses a touch screen display for a personal information device, comprising in part:

a single piece device enclosure integrated with the optical touch sensor, the single piece device enclosure having a transparent surface for viewing the display disposed beneath the transparent surface, the single piece device enclosure including a lens structure for columnating light across the transparent surface, the optical touch sensor coupled to the lens structure to register contact with the transparent surface via the lens structure while the single piece device enclosure prevents contaminants from entering the personal information device.

The claimed invention explicitly recites the single piece device enclosure integrated with the optical touch sensor. The device enclosure has a transparent surface to view the display. Since the device enclosure is single piece, it prevents contaminants, such as, for example, dust, water, or other environmental contaminants, from entering the device.

In contrast, Applicant understands Francis to show a digitizer wave guide array with integrated collimating optics. Francis discloses

mechanisms to integrate collimating optics with wave guide arrays into a one piece structure. The cited section of Francis (col. 5, lines 44 – col. 6, line 11) discloses the embedding of the “optical systems” within a “send substrate.” Applicant respectfully asserts that this is different from integrating the optical touch sensor into the device enclosure.

Additionally, Applicant respectfully asserts that Francis teaches away from the claimed invention. The integration disclosed and taught by Francis is with respect to optics into a wave guide array. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that a device in accordance with Francis contemplates a seam, or similar junction, between the digitizer 10 (shown in Figure 1A of Francis) and a device enclosure or device case. There is no disclosure or suggestion of any device enclosure being integrated with the digitizer 10, optical systems, or send substrate. This is clearly shown by a comparison of Figure 1A of Francis with, for example, Figure 2 of the above referenced Application.

Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts that the present invention as recited in Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2-8 is not anticipated by Francis within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e).

With respect to independent Claims 10, and 16, Claim 10 has been amended to recite a single piece device enclosure forming a single

mechanical structure with a lens structure. Claim 16 has been amended to recite a lens structure coupled to a transparent surface to form a single mechanical device enclosure. Applicant respectfully asserts that, for the same reasons as discussed above, the present invention as recited in Claim 10 and Claim 16 is not anticipated by Francis within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e).

35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) Rejections

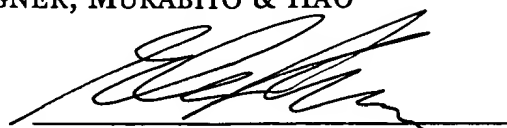
Paragraphs 3-4 of the above referenced Office Action states that dependent Claims 5-7, 9, 12, 13 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Francis. Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant points out that, for the reasons described above, the present invention as recited in amended independent Claims 1, 10, and 16 is not shown or suggested by Francis. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that the present invention as recited in dependent Claims 5-7, 9, 12, 13 and 18 is not obvious within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

CONCLUSION

All remaining claims of the present application are now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application. Please charge any additional fees or apply any credits to our PTO deposit account number: 23-0085.

Respectfully submitted,
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